



Park Board Minutes  
June 8th, 2009

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City Hall Council Chambers  
**The meeting began at 6:00PM**

**Park Board Members Present**

Darren Proctor-Chairperson  
Fred Jacobsen-Vice Chairperson  
Carol Ujick  
Valerie Zifka  
Brian Cebe  
Richards Rawlings  
Karen Witters

**City Representatives Present**

Gary Leaf  
Jennie Sage  
David Wells  
Winona Jacobsen (no microphone)  
Dan Swatman (no microphone)

**Citizens Present**

Marian Betzer (no microphone)

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Approval of May 11<sup>th</sup> 2009 minutes with one suggested amendment.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**CITIZEN COMMENTS:** None

## **STAFF REPORTS:**

David Wells, Bonney Lake Event Coordinator, was asked to share and discuss local events and updates to the 2009 Event Calendar. David handed out three flyers: Stars on Stage, Battle of the Bands, and Bark in the Park. He also handed out the cost effective book marks (in lieu of flyers) that were distributed to all the Elementary schools inside the Sumner School District as well as Foothills Elementary (White River) and both Elementary Schools in the Dieringer School District. David is sending out Stars on Stage and Battle of the Bands application to the music teachers at Bonney Lake, Sumner, and White River High Schools.

David stated that Monsters vs. Aliens will not be shown this summer due to the DVD release delayed until October 2009. David discussed with the Park Board their ideas/movie picks, and stated that he will be keeping the Friday night movies more geared for families.

Bark in the Park is now being advertised; the applications to Vendors are being sent out, and there will be an off leash dog park at this event.

The Bread of Life Food Bank manager Mr. Bowen approached David and would like to discuss having a Car Show, entertainment, and a hot dog eating contest on the same day/time as Bark in the Park or possibly following event. The Park Board discussed their thoughts regarding the combined event.

Tacoma Rainiers night is coming together well, they are having a minor printing problem but will have the ticket vouchers out soon. The Park Board will have booth space at Bonney Lake Days this year.

## **OLD/CONTINUING BUSINESS:**

### ***Fennel Creek Trail presentation:***

The Fennel Creek Trail presentation was approved by the Park Board to be moved to the beginning of Old Continuing Business due to Gary Leaf, Community Services Director, having a family emergency that he has to attend to.

## **OLD/CONTINUING BUSINESS: continued**

### ***Fennel Creek Trail presentation: continued***

Gary handed out a Fennel Creek Trail project update; he then verbally updated the Park Board in detail on the following three areas:

#### Land Acquisitions:

- Cimmer parcel
- Phillips parcel
- Hyland/Archev lots
- Victor Falls School
- Possible future acquisitions (Johnson, Neighborhood Church)

#### Trail Construction:

- SR2S (Safe Routes to School) Project – One mile trail
- Reichert earmark request – One mile plus trail head

#### Costs:

- Master plan estimated trail construction cost of \$6.2 million
- Environmental mitigation approximately \$750,000.
- Land acquisition

The Park Board had open discussion during and after this presentation.

Gary concluded by handing out a map and an email response from the Planning Department showing and suggesting where the walking trail could exist from the Moriarty property to Allan Yorke Park.

### ***Sub Committee discussion:***

Fred Jacobsen will create a Power Point for the Bonney Lake Days booth. Valerie Zifka has created a preliminary Bonney Lake Park Board brochure; and is working with Al Catanzaro to add parks, post Fennel Creek trail heads and landmarks to the proposed Fennel Creek Trail map located on the back of the brochure. Valerie would like feed back from the Park Board regarding the accuracy of the content of this brochure. The board discussed adding photos, cost of printing etc. The Park Board is pleased with the marketing ideas for current and future use, and the goal is to have this information available at Bonney Lake days.

**OLD/CONTINUING BUSINESS: continued**

***Approval of April 13<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes:***

The Park Board approved the April 13<sup>th</sup> minutes with one requested amendment.

***Skate Park use policy:***

Darren Proctor, Chairperson, asked staff at the May 11<sup>th</sup> 2009 meeting to research other Cities Skate Park use policies, and educate the Park Board with this information at the June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Park Board meeting. Jennie Sage, Community Services Specialist, contacted 25 random local Cities regarding Skate Park rentals. Out of the 25 Cities; not one City rented out their Skate Parks, and they discouraged it for liability purposes. The Park Board looked at the information presented and agreed to recommend to staff that the Skate Park should not be rented out. Richards (Chas) Rawlings made motion for the Park Board to make recommendation to staff that the Skate Park is not to be rented out. Carol Ujick seconded this motion, and motion was voted on and passed by remaining members.

***Plaque standards:***

Tabled due to lack of staff time for research. Scheduled to have final discussion on July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

***Downtown Pocket Park/Veterans Memorial property parcels discussion:***

Fred Jacobsen mentioned speaking with Mayor Johnson; the Mayor would like to have the Park Board continue moving forward with their plans until land is acquired, and to keep our main focus on raising money.

Darren Proctor asked where the donations could be sent to. Fred would like all donation inquiries to be made to the following newsletter email: [bl\\_livable\\_community@comcast.net](mailto:bl_livable_community@comcast.net), he will then forward to the Veteran Committee. Brian Cebe will have an address and a contact person for the Park Board by the next scheduled meeting.

The Park Board discussed the delay of land purchased due to the economy, but will welcome any land donations from private individuals. The Park Board will continue to encourage having open space in the Downtown area.

**OLD/CONTINUING BUSINESS: continued:**

***Western Redcedar Tree discussion:***

Valerie Zifka would like to make the Park Board aware of the Heritage Tree Ordinance: 12.24.130 Heritage Trees

**12.24.130 Heritage Trees.**

A heritage tree is any tree that because of its age, size, unique type, or historical association is of special importance to the city and has been designated as a heritage tree by the city council.

A. Request for Designation. In order for a tree to be designated as a heritage tree, a person must submit a written request to the tree department. The request shall include a signed declaration by the land owner approving of this declaration; a site map showing the lot, any structures on site, and the current use of the site; the species and size of tree; a narrative explaining why the applicant wishes to designate that tree as a heritage tree.

B. Criteria for Designation. No tree standing on private property shall be designated a heritage tree without the consent of the property owner. No tree on city-owned property shall be designated a heritage tree without the consent of the mayor. Upon receiving a complete and valid request for heritage tree status, the city shall obtain an arborist's report evaluating the condition of the tree. The arborist's report shall include an evaluation on the tree's health, aerial space, open ground area for the root system, longevity of the species, and suitability for long-term retention.

C. Adoption of Heritage Tree Status. Staff shall present to the parks board all information, including the application, arborist's report, and any additional information discovered by staff. The parks board shall consider the application at a public meeting and make a recommendation to the city council whether or not to adopt the tree as a heritage tree. Adoption of a tree as a heritage tree shall be accomplished by a motion or resolution of the city council based on the tree's historical, cultural, or other value as determined by the city council.

D. Protection of Heritage Tree. When a tree is designated as a heritage tree, a plaque so signifying shall be placed near the tree. The city shall place a notice in the land records of the Pierce County auditor for all properties upon which a heritage tree is located, stating that the heritage tree is protected by the provisions of this chapter. The restrictions placed on a heritage tree shall bind all successors, heirs and assigns. It shall be unlawful to remove, damage in any way, or defile a heritage tree, its plaque, or any protective measures for that tree.

E. Maintenance. The city shall maintain all heritage trees that are located on city property or on public rights-of-way within the city. It shall be the duty of every owner of property upon which a heritage tree is standing to maintain that tree to the best of their ability. The city may give advice and assistance to property owners regarding proper maintenance of heritage trees.

**OLD/CONTINUING BUSINESS: continued:**

***Ord. 12.24.130 Heritage Trees: continued***

F. Hazardous Heritage Tree. If, in the best judgment of the tree department, a heritage tree, whether standing on public or private property, has become a hazard, an arborist's report shall be obtained evaluating the condition. The arborist shall evaluate the condition of the tree and recommend a suitable course of action. With the tree department's approval the recommended course of action shall be carried out by the owner of the heritage tree.

G. Removal of Heritage Tree Designation. A tree that has been designated as a heritage tree can be removed from designation upon a finding by the city council, by motion or resolution that one or more conditions exist:

1. The tree is of poor health, diseased or no longer alive;
2. The tree no longer meets the criteria for designation as a heritage tree;
3. The tree interferes with the needed location of proposed improvements or structures; or
4. The tree is on private property and the property owner no longer wants the designation.

H. Acts of Nature. In cases where a heritage tree was damaged by a natural disaster or other acts of nature, the tree department may waive the provisions of this subsection to the extent that the city may alleviate immediate hazards. (Ord. 1124 § 1, 2005).

***Western Redcedar Tree discussion: continued***

Valerie created a map showing the location of these Western Redcedar Trees and suggested that we organize a field trip to visit this location. The Park Board will look at these trees; if the Park Board agrees that these trees qualify to be Heritage Trees, they will then recommend to staff that the next step in this process would be to send out the City Arborist, H.D. Messinger. Darren Proctor suggested that the Park Board further discuss the field trip time and dates through email.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Fred Jacobsen stated that he would like to receive the minutes well in advance for editing purposes. The Park Board held discussion regarding this subject, and agreed with Jennie Sage's recommendation to have the minutes sent out one week prior to the Park Board meeting; this would allow ample time for suggested amendments and changes to be made.

**NEW BUSINESS: continued**

Fred Jacobsen stated that during the last Coffee with the Mayor, he updated the Mayor on what the sub-committee was doing. The Mayor's recommendation was for the Park Board to start looking more long term (i.e. 5-15 year plan). The Park Board had further discussion regarding the long term comp plan, and the value of attending other committee meetings etc.

Brian Cebe commented on the condition of Madrona Park, and would recommend that staff visit the park on a regular basis for maintenance purposes.

**PROPOSED JULY AGENDA ITEMS:**

- A. Plaque standards
- B. Veterans Memorial property parcels and donations
- C. Further discussion~Western Redcedar Tree
- D. Sub Committee ~ Marketing

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

David Wells announced the need for volunteers at Bonney Lake Days. David will also send this request for volunteers to Fred Jacobsen to add to the Livable Community newsletter.

Darren Proctor reminded the Park Board that they are a recommendation board only that does not direct staff.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting ended at 7:18pm.  
The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00PM.

*Jennie Sage*  
Park Board Secretary